

ABBIE E. WEBSTER.

JANUARY 26, 1904.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HOLLIDAY, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 4392.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4392) granting a pension to Abbie E. Webster, submit the following report:

This bill proposes to pension the beneficiary named therein at \$12 per month.

A similar bill was favorably reported by your committee at \$8 per month in the Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses, and the report of that committee is herewith.

The bill is again reported with the recommendation that it pass after the same shall have been amended as follows:

In line 8 strike out the word "twelve" and insert in lieu thereof the word "eight."

[House Report No. 348, Fifty-seventh Congress, first session.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5521) granting a pension to Abbie Webster, submit the following report:

This bill proposes to pension the beneficiary named therein at \$12 per month. A similar bill was favorably reported by this committee at \$8 per month in the Fifty-sixth Congress, and the report of that committee is herewith.

For the reasons set forth in the report of your committee in the Fifty-sixth Congress this bill is reported back with the recommendation that relief be granted to this widow at \$8 per month, after the bill shall have been amended as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to place on the pension roll, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws, the name of Abbie E. Webster, widow of Byron G. Webster, late of Captain Barker's dragoons, Illinois State Militia, and pay her a pension at the rate of eight dollars per month."

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill granting a pension to Abbie E. Webster."

[House Report No. 448, Fifty-sixth Congress, first session.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6372) granting a pension to Abbie Webster, submit the following report:

The soldier named in this bill, according to the records of the adjutant-general of the State of Illinois, was a member of Captain Barker's dragoons, Illinois State Militia, from April 19, 1861, to August 18, 1861, when discharged.

The organization was not mustered into the service of the United States and was purely a State organization, but did, according to report of the War Department, serve in West Virginia, under command of United States officers, from about June 22 to July 27, 1861.

The claim of the beneficiary named in the bill as widow of the soldier, and filed April 2, 1891, under the act of June 27, 1890, was rejected by the Pension Bureau September 25, 1893, upon the ground that, inasmuch as the soldier, or the organization in which he served, had not been mustered into the United States service, title to pension could not obtain under the act of June 27, 1890.

The beneficiary is now 65 years of age; married the soldier on October 13, 1861, and has not remarried since soldier's death, which occurred October 25, 1865, from consumption.

It is shown that she possesses no property and has no income from any source save that of her daily labor.

Your committee are of the opinion that this beneficiary should be placed in the same position as those widows of soldiers whose husbands were mustered into the United States service, and it being shown that the beneficiary married the soldier prior to January 27, 1890, and that she is without other means of support than her daily labor, your committee recommend the passage of the bill after the same shall have been amended as follows:

In line 4, after the word "place," insert the words "on the pension roll, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws."

In line 4, after the word "Abbie," insert the letter "E."

In line 5, before the word "of," insert the word "late;" before the word "Barker's," in the same line, insert the word "Captain;" before the word "Illinois," in the same line, insert the word "Company."

In lines 6 and 7 strike out the words "on the pension roll of the United States, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws now in force."

In line 8 strike out the words "to pay to the said Abbie Webster" and in lieu thereof insert the words "pay her."

In line 9 strike out the word "twelve" and insert in lieu thereof the word "eight."

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill granting a pension to Abbie E. Webster."